### VILLAGE OF EAST TROY

2015 Energy Drive East Troy, WI 53120 262-642-6255

# The Village View



MARCH 2015

#### Village Board

Ist and 3rd Monday at 6:30 Committee of the Whole 4th Monday at 6:30 (as needed)

### **Plan Commission**

2nd Monday at 6:30

#### Important Numbers

Village Hall 642-6255
Building Insp. 642-6260
Library 642-6262
Municipal Court 642-6252
Park & Rec 642-6263
Police Dept. 642-6250 (non-emergency)

Public Works 642-6255

### **Elected Officials**

#### Village President:

Randall Timms

#### **Trustees:**

Fred Douglass

Chris Gultch

Linda Kaplan

Fortune Renucci

**Dustan Stanford** 

Ann Zess

#### Judge:

Michael Cotter

### **Our First Edition**

VOLUME I, ISSUE I

Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly newsletter! It is exciting to think when our next newsletter is due warm weather will be upon us. Watch for future editions of the newsletter to be posted on our web site. If you would like to receive notifications of the newsletter, like us on Facebook or subscribe to our general e-mail notifications from our web site. If you have ideas for future topics to be addressed, please e-mail them to voet@easttroy-wi.com.

# Vote on April 7!

The Spring Election is right around the corner. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are not registered to vote you may do so in advance of the election to save time on election day. You must be a resident of the Village for 28 days prior to the election and provide proof of residence.

Other important dates associated with the election:

April 2 Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail

April 3 Last day to absentee vote in Clerk's office

April 3 Last day to register to vote prior to election day

No photo ID will be required for this election, per the Attorney General. The requirement will go into effect after this election.



### **Important Dates:**

April 13, 7:00 p.m. - John McGivern Around the Corner Preview Party at Alpine Valley check out the East Troy <u>Chamber of Commerce site</u> for details.

**April 16, 7:00 p.m.**- Around the Corner episode airs on MPTV

April 20-24 - Hydrant Flushing

May 7 - Brush and Branch Collection



### What's Developing in East Troy?

Want the latest scoop on the most recent commercial developments? Visit our website at www.easttroy-wi.com. From the home page click on our <u>interactive zoning code</u> graphic, scroll down to tools and sign up for eAlerts. You can subscribe to be alerted for every application or within a certain distance of your property!



The second phase of Mill Street will be under construction

### Department of Public Works & Utilities Projects for 2015

- 1. Mill Street Phase 2 will commence from Austin St. to Trent St. with replacement of water mains and adding new storm sewer collection system.
- The Water/Sewer Utilities will continue to implement our GIS Program (Geographic Information System). By improving our asset management program we will continue to improve our collection and distribution systems on a budgeted capital replacement plan.
- 3. The Public Works Department will continue to work on street repairs and you may experience some seal coating in your neighborhood later in the year.
- 4. The Parks Department will continue to bring additional services and or improved features to the community.

# Sewer Overflows & Backups

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause of overflows is sewer pipes blocked by grease. Grease gets into the sewer from household drains as well as from poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses.

#### The results can be-

- I. Raw Sewage overflowing in your home or the house next door.
- 2. An increase in operation and maintenance costs for the sewer utility, which leads to rate increases.
- 3. An expensive and unpleasant cleanup that often must be paid for by you.
- 4. Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards, streets and water ways.
- 5. Potential contact with disease-causing organisms.

### You <u>Can</u> Help!

- 1. Never put grease down sink drains or toilets
- 2. Put baskets/strainers in the sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and emptying them into the trash.
- 3. Place grease and food scraps into a can or the trash for disposal.
- 4. Speak with your neighbors and friends about how to keep grease out of sewers.

A little bit of effort on your part will help prevent sewer overflows & backups!

### Are You Being Smart With Your Smartphone?

#### TIPS FROM THE VILLAGE OF EAST TROY POLICE DEPARTMENT



Cell phones are no longer just for making phone calls or for children to check in with their parents. Cell phones are now smartphones, which can do so much more than just making a phone call. There are smartphone applications for taking photographs online banking, making purchases, sending and receiving email, playing games, health and medical information, insurance and finding your location. These applications are making daily life more enjoyable and can make it quicker and easier to accomplish daily tasks. As great as these applications may be, your smartphone is a database of personal information and can be a target for identity theft. Here are some tips on protecting your smartphone and the information it contains.

- 1. Set your phone to lock automatically and use a password to unlock your phone When your smartphone is not in use after several minutes, the smartphone should automatically lock and require a password the next time you want to use it.
- Protect sensitive data Do not text or email personal information. When using the internet on your smartphone, ensure the web address is secure before providing personal information. Be careful of pseudo-applications, which may steal your login and personal information.
- 3. Watch your wireless and Bluetooth Hackers are able to remotely access a smart-phone via a Bluetooth device/connection and access data and browse the Internet. To help prevent this from happening, it is important to ensure your Bluetooth device is non-discoverable and to decline all unknown Bluetooth connection requests. Turn off wireless connections if you are not using it and be cautious when connecting to unknown hotspots or networks.
- "As great as these applications may be, your smartphone is a database of personal information..."
- 4. **Use caution with applications** When you find a new application to download, be careful and check the application's requirements and permissions. The requirements for the application should be realistic. An example; is it realistic to download a calculator application and that application needs to know your location or home address?
- 5. **Jailbreaking your smartphone is not recommended** Jailbreaking allows users to access read-only files and access to the operating system. This is normally done by users who know the potential risks involved. Jailbreaking your smartphone in addition creates a greater potential for malware to be maliciously installed and this could allow full access to your smartphone. Example, malware can record keystrokes entered using the on -screen keyboard, install pseudo-applications, access files and copy data.
- 6. **Increase security on your smartphone** When updates are available for your smartphone's operating system, do them immediately. These updates may patch any holes discovered in the operating system's security. Because your smartphone has nearly the same computing power as your personal computer, a smartphone can benefit from a mobile security application. Not only do mobile security applications protect against mobile malware but can provide several anti-theft features.

Please take the time to protect your personal information and the information contained on your smartphone.



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Web: <a href="mailto:www.easttroy-wi.com">www.easttroy-wi.com</a>

Clerk-Treasurer: Eileen Suhm
Director of Public Works: Mike Miller
Police Chief: Alan Boyes

The Good Neighbor Community

### Fun Fact

East Troy was founded in 1836 and became a Village in 1900. The petition to do so was signed on March 6, 1900. On May 26 an election was held with 158 votes cast. 105 voted in favor of incorporation. The first election of officers took place on June 22, 1900. In 2015 we are celebrating our 115th Birthday!

## Don't Forget Your Dog

Dogs over five months of age are required by ordinance to be licensed by April I. After the April I deadline,

there will be a \$5.00 late fee assessed for licenses issued. Not only is it required for safety reasons, but countless dogs have been returned home because they had a license!





# Open Book & Board of Review

The Village has a new assessment firm as of 2015, Associated Appraisal. You can visit their web site at <a href="www.apraz.com">www.apraz.com</a>. Assessment data for the Village of East Troy is now online, simply click on the property search section from their home page to begin your search for assessment data!

The open book and board of review dates have not been set yet, but we are anticipating an open book at the end of May with board of review in early June. Open book is a good time to meet with the assessor should you have questions regarding your assessment. If you have questions regarding the Board of Review process the Wisconsin Department of Revenue offers great resources such as the <u>Guide for Property Owners</u> and <u>Property Assessment Appeal Guide</u>. Once the dates are set, notices will be posted as well as information placed on Facebook and our web site. Feel free to call our office for the date as we get closer to May if you are awaiting the date.

Finally, if you have reason to believe your assessment is not correct you can request a review of your property assessment by submitting the completed <u>review form</u> to Associated Appraisal. This form can be obtained from our office or their web site. Please keep in mind, tax levies are set by taxing jurisdictions including the Village, School District, County, State and Technical College. You cannot simply request a review because you feel your taxes are too high. You must have reason to believe your assessment value is incorrect.